

PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: NRS 13.202

Pursuant to Chapter 0400-4-7 of the Department's rules, the proposed activity described below has been submitted for approval under an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit and §401 Water Quality Certification. This notice is intended to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this application.

APPLICANT: Mr. Khalid Ahmed

Tennessee Department of Transportation

Suite 900, James K. Polk Bldg.

505 Deaderick St. Nashville, TN 37243

615-253-0021

LOCATION: The proposed alterations are in Bradley County, TN along State Route 311; interchange between I-75 and SR-2. This project has 14 wetlands, 15 streams, and 3 ponds within the boundaries.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The TN Dept of Transportation proposes to construct a new interchange on State Route 311 (US 74) between Interstate 75 and South Lee Highway (SR 2) in Bradley County. The completion of this project would provide a new interchange and auxiliary lanes along SR-311. This new interchange would lie on SR-311 approximately 0.6 miles east of I-75 and 0.9 miles west of South Lee Highway. Auxiliary lanes along SR-311 would connect the interchange to the two adjoining interchanges. The total project length right-of-way length is approximately 0.919 miles. The applicant has determined that the project will not cause any loss of flood storage or power storage volumes.

The applicant has coordinated with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency concerning the potential impact this activity may have on endangered species. The TWRA has determined that the application, as proposed and with the implementation of the best management practices described within the application, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered species within the vicinity of the proposed activity.

IMPACTS:

Cumulatively the applicant is proposing to impact more than 0.25 acres of wetlands for this project, therefore mitigation will be required for permanent impacts to wetlands. Wetland impacts will be mitigated at a 4:1 ratio at the nearest wetland mitigation bank unless appropriate in-system mitigation is located. The total impacts to wetlands is 1.672 acres.

Cumulatively the applicant is proposing to impact multiple streams above the level of de minimis and therefore will be required to mitigate. The applicant is proposing to use a combination of the Oostanaula Stream Mitigation Bank and the Tennessee Stream Mitigation Program to mitigate for stream impacts associated with this project. Total stream impacts associated with this project are 3,208.5 linear feet.

WTL-1- Latitude: 35.1517 Longitude:-84.9432 TDOT proposes to temporarily impact 0.03 acres of wetland. After road construction it shall be returned to the original elevation. Monitoring will be required post-project.

WTL-2 Latitude: 35.1501 Longitude: -84.9410 TDOT will permanently fill 0.02 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

STR-1 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1501 Longitude: -84.9410 TDOT proposes to relocate 1266 linear feet of stream in a riprap lined channel. The applicant will mitigate for 950 linear feet of impact (0.75x1266) and are required to monitor to ensure hydrology is maintained. The applicant proposes to extend a 174.5 linear foot culvert with an additional 515 linear feet with 451.7 If of a 30" pipe and 150 If of a 36" pipe. The impacts mitigated for additional encapsulation are 689.5. Additionally there are 27 linear feet of stream loss, this total will be mitigated. Total debits for STR-1 are 1666.5 linear feet. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

WTL-4 Latitude: 35.1491 Longitude: -84.9367 TDOT will permanently fill 0.25 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

WTL-5 Latitude: 35.1476 Longitude: -84.9378 TDOT will permanently fill 0.59 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

STR-3/PND-1 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1493 Longitude: -84.9352 TDOT proposes to rock fill in Pond-1/STR-3 for 60 linear feet. TDOT will monitor the downstream system for hydrology to ensure baseflow is maintained post-project. They will mitigate for 60 linear feet of loss. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-5 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1476 Longitude: -84.9322 TDOT proposes to extend encapsulation on this stream from 306 linear feet (48" RCP) an additional 191 linear feet with a 48"RCP. Two outfalls from special stormwater ditches at inlet and outlet are proposed. The total mitigation required for these impacts are 191 linear feet. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-6 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1470 Longitude: -84.9313

TDOT proposes to extend a 42" RCP of 197 linear feet to a total of 285 linear feet. The total mitigation required for these impacts are 285 linear feet. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

WTL-6 Latitude: 35.1461 Longitude: -84.9299

TDOT will permanently fill 0.15 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

WTL-7 Latitude: 35.1460 Longitude: -84.9306

TDOT will permanently fill 0.15 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

WTL-9 Latitude: 35.1438 Longitude: -84.9257

TDOT will permanently fill 0.03 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These impacts will be mitigated.

STR-9 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1446 Longitude: -84.9272 TDOT is proposing to remove the concrete lining the channel and replace and relocate 215 linear feet of channel in a flexible channel liner. TDOT will be debited for 3 linear feet of channel loss and be required to monitor the stream to ensure no changes in hydrology. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-7 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1448 Longitude: -84.9264 TDOT proposes to relocate a stream currently in a concrete channel into a riprap lined, rock-filled channel for 82 linear feet. TDOT will be required to monitor this system to ensure hydrology is maintained. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-8 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1443 Longitude: -84.9273 TDOT is proposing to construct a temporary outfall from STR-9. No permanent impacts are proposed on this channel.

STR-11 Unnamed tributary to Johnston Branch Latitude: 35.1447 Longitude: -84.9463 TDOT is proposing to relocate 265 linear feet of stream into a riprap lined ditch, add a 24" side pipe and an outfall. TDOT will be required to monitor this stream to ensure the channel maintains hydrology. TDOT will be debited 199 linear feet (265x.075). This stream is available for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-12 Unnamed tributary to Johnston Branch Latitude: 35.1473 Longitude: -84.9460 TDOT is proposing to culvert 156 linear feet of stream and riprap 116 linear feet of channel. There will also be 50 linear feet of channel loss. They will replace these impacts with 302 linear feet of debits. This stream is available for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-13 Unnamed tributary to Johnston Branch Latitude: 35.1474 Longitude: -84.9451 TDOT is proposing to relocate 240 linear feet of stream into a riprap lined ditch and add an outfall. TDOT will be required to monitor this stream to ensure the channel maintains hydrology. TDOT will be debited 180 linear feet (240 x.075). This stream is available for additional impacts to habitat.

WTL-13 Latitude: 35.1464 Longitude: -84.9434

TDOT will permanently fill 0.12 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange and temporarily impact 0.09 acres. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These permanent impacts will be mitigated.

WTL-3 Latitude: 35.1504 Longitude: -84.9363

TDOT will permanently fill 0.36 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange and temporarily impact 0.01 acres. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These permanent impacts will be mitigated.

STR-14 Unnamed tributary to Johnston Branch Latitude: 35.1467 Longitude: -84.9437 TDOT is proposing to place 130 linear feet of channel in a 30" pipe, including U-type walls and an outfall. This activity does not require mitigation. This stream is available for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-15 Unnamed tributary to Johnston Branch Latitude: 35.1454 Longitude: -84.9410 TDOT is proposing a 22 linear foot cross drain with 15 linear feet of a U-type endwall. This activity does not require mitigation. This stream is available for additional impacts to habitat.

STR-2 Unnamed tributary to Candies Creek Latitude: 35.1504 Longitude: -84.9364 TDOT is proposing to encapsulate 218 linear feet of stream into a 30" culvert. This activity also accounts for 22 linear feet of channel loss. Total impacts for this stream are 240 linear feet. This stream is unavailable for additional impacts to habitat.

WTL-14 Latitude: 35.1465 Longitude: -89.9423 TDOT will permanently fill 0.002 acres of wetlands for the construction of this interchange. This wetland is available for additional impacts to habitat. These permanent impacts will be mitigated.

DEGRADATION: In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activities will result in degradation to water quality.

WATERSHED / WATERBODY DESCRIPTION: These streams are located in the Hiwassee River Watershed. The Hiwassee River Watershed is located in Middle Tennessee and North Carolina. The Tennessee portion includes parts of Bradley, Hamilton, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe and Polk counties. The Hiwassee River Watershed drains approximately 2,099 square miles, 1,011 square miles of which are in Tennessee, and empties to Chickamauga Reservoir (Tennessee River). There are 62 rare plant and animal species in the Tennessee portion of the Hiwassee River Watershed. For more information on this watershed please visit our website at http://www.tn.gov/environment/water/watersheds/hiwassee-river.shtml.

Stream Name / ID #: Unnamed Tribs to Johnston Branch and Unnamed tribs to Candies Creek

 $(TN06020002005_0999)$

Ecoregion: 67g Southern Shale Valleys

These are small streams with shallow flow. They are typically characterized by low bands, not more than 6 feet wide, and a few feet deep with sediment/shale/coble substrates.

The wetlands are typical slope and flat wetlands characterized by scrub/shrub of native vegetation. Those wetlands within the current right-of-way are linear, emergent features with limited functions.

The assessment information for each feature is within the impact statements. These features were assessed in 2014.

Assessment Date: 2014

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Vena Jones

FACTORS CONSIDERED: In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The department shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The department shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

COMMENTING: Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced. Send all written comments to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

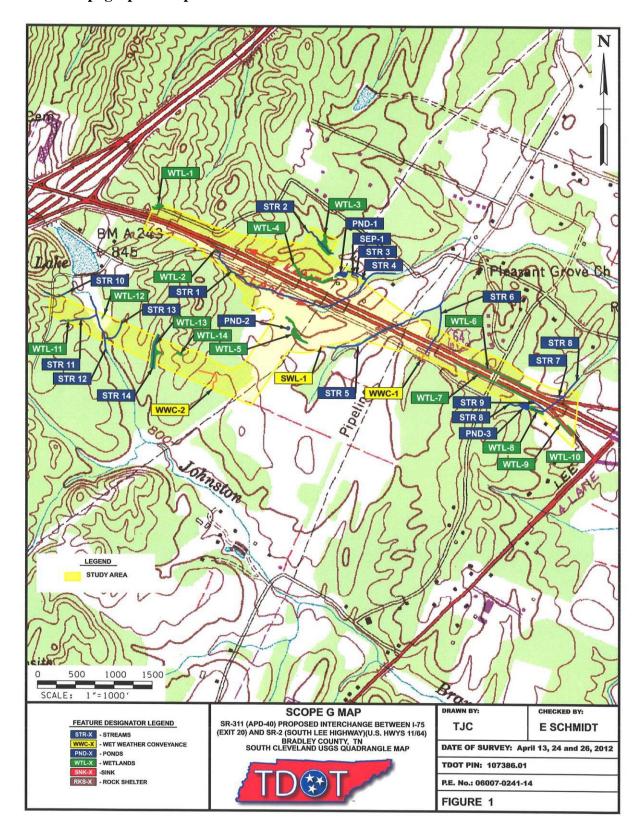
PUBLIC HEARING: Interested persons may request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing. Send all public hearing request to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

APPEAL: A permit appeal may be filed, pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-105(i) and Rule 0400-40-05, by the permit applicant or by any aggrieved person who participated in the public comment period announced by this notice. This petition must be filed within THIRTY (30) DAYS after public notice of the issuance of the permit. The petition must specify what provisions are being appealed and the basis for the appeal. It should be addressed to the technical secretary of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas at the following address: Tisha Calabrese Benton, Director, Division of Water Resources, William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 11th floor, Nashville, TN 37243. Any hearing would be in accordance with T.C.A. §§69-3-110 and 4-5-301 et seq.

FILE REVIEW: The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address (listed below) for review and/or copying.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Division of Water Resources, Natural Resources Unit William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Location/Topographic Map



Site Designs

